P19

Sectt. II-27—45,000—9-11-34.

Revenue (1935) Department.

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. No. 2698

DATED 9-11-1935

[Despatch Abstract.]

His Excellency's Tour - (South Kanara) - Memorandum presented by the Catholic Association - Notes - Recorded.

1-305/35.

PRIVATE SECRETARY MADRAS

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT 28 SEP 1935 REVENUE DEPARTMENT

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
Ootacamund,
27th September 1935.

Dear Uzielli,

I enclose a copy of a memorandum of subjects which the S.Kanara Catholic Association wishes to discuss with His Excellency when he receives a deputation from that body during his tour in the S.Kanara district next month, together with a copy of the Collector's notes. Would you kindly arrange to send for His Excellency's use a brief note on the points raised in the memorandum which relate to your Department so as to reach me not later than the 9th October

Yours sincerely,

H.R.Uzielli Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
Fort St.George, Madras.

TO

HIS EXCELLENCY

LORD ERSKINE, G. C. I. E.,

Governor of Fort St. George,

Madras

May it please Your Excellency!

WE, the members of the South Kanara Catholic Association, beg to offer our loyal welcome to Your Excellency on the occasion of your first visit to this district. We are glad that, early in your regime, Your Excellency has been pleased to visit this district and gain first-hand knowledge of its various needs, which owing to its remoteness from the seat of Government and difficulty of access have not received adequate attention. As this is the Royal Silver Jubilee year we beg to offer through Your Excellency our humble congratulations to His Majesty the King Emperor on the completion of the 25th year of His reign and tender Him our heartfelt devotion and respectful homage.

OURSELVES

Our Association registered under the Companies' Act, has been working for the last 21 years for the educational, social, economic and general welfare of the Catholic Christians of this district who have by their industry, enterprise and education become the most important and advanced section of the Indian Christian Community of South India. The 25,000 acres of coffee and tea estates owned by us, our tile factories numbering about thirty, coffee curing and weaving factories, two first grade colleges, one of which is for women, the Ecclesiastical Seminary, high and elementary schools, workshops, printing presses, hospitals charitable institutions and churches demonstrate our activities and contribution to social service. We have always loyally co-operated with the Government in all matters and have won the good opinion of successive administrators, including our present Collector, who was pleased, at a durbar held on the 1st May 1933, to refer to the *"marked degree"* to which the Catholics of Mangalore *"have shown a willingness and ability to make good all over India,"* and to *"their conspicuous loyalty."*

AGRICULTURE

Mainly agriculturists, we have suffered heavily by the fall in the price of rice and other agricultural produce. Our Community which has large interests in coffee, has been specially hit by the fall in the price of this commodity and diminution of demand for it from foreign countries. In these circumstances we pray for measures tending to reduce assessment of land and increase of consumption of coffee in this country, and export to foreign countries.

Sugar-cane grows well in certain parts of this district and its cultivation is more lucrative than paddy cultivation. We would request that steps might be taken to promote the growth of sugar-cane including the establishment of a sugar factory which will give an immediate stimulus to its cultivation.

Of recent years the demand for cashewnuts has been steadily increasing, owing to foreign demand. The manufacture of oil from the shell of the cashewnut is being tried in the school of Technology at Madras and in the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore. If the experiments are successful, an additional use will be found for the cashewnut. Cashew fruits now being wasted will find a use, if the distillery for the manufacture of cashew arrack is shifted from Chowghat to this district. We would urge that to meet the growing demand for the products of cashew fruit and nuts, the cultivation of cashew trees may be encouraged. The total extent of Government waste land in this district in fasli 1338 was 1,248,252 acres which included areas wholly unsuited for cultivation, such as laterite hill-tops and jungle land situated in malarial and unpopulated tracts and kumaki lands, and in reply to recent interpellations, the Hon'ble the Revenue Member of Government said that if any applications are received for the assignment of waste lands for cashew cultivation, they will be favourably considered. We would suggest that the Revenue and Agricultural Department may be instructed to render assistance in ascertaining what lands will be suitable for cashew cultivation, and to offer facilities for their cultivation. While increasing the land revenue this would give a welcome addition to the income of agriculturists.

DARKHASTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

We are very grateful to Government for having cancelled the Government Order of 1918 which imposed restrictions on Catholic foundations and their incumbents in the matter of assignment and alienation of properties. Our church is engaged in widespread activities, which are beneficial not only to Catholics but to all sections of the public and largely contribute to the progress of this district. Our Catholic colleges and schools give education cheaply and efficiently to all communities and their great popularity is shown by the fact that non-Catholics seek admission to them even from outside the district. We would refer to the Kankanady Hospital where a large number of non-Catholics are treated free in the out-patient section and the Leper-Asylum—the only one in the district—open to all sections of the public. We have our Orphanages and Homes for the Aged and Medical Stations. In connection with our schools, orphanages, homes for the aged, industrial establishments and medical missions, and monasteries, convents and seminaries where priests, sisters and brothers are trained for service, the various church authorities and parish unions are constantly in need of darkhasts and assignments of land.

Having regard to the humanitarian services carried out by our Institutions, which relieve Government and local bodies of a large portion of their burden which would otherwise fall on them, we trust that Government would deal with special liberality, applications for darkhasts which have to be made to carry on the work of the institutions.

FORESTS

The members of our community are keenly affected by the withdrawal of concessions granted to villagers in Reserve Forests in this district, including Hosabettu and Todar. These reserves were constituted Reserve Forests on the 1st September 1888 and 15th December 1890 respectively. We submit that in ordering the cancellation of the concessions in question the Forest Policy of Government has been totally overlooked. This policy is described in the resolution of the Government of India dated 19th October 1894 and is included in the Appendix of the Forest Code. It laid down that every reasonable facility should be afforded to the people concerned for the full and easy satisfaction of their needs for fuel, manure, fodder, etc., and that considerations of Forest income are to be subordinated to that consideration. The Royal Commission on Agriculture expressed its entire agreement with the Forest Policy of Government and declared that the Forests should be the hand-maid of Agriculture. We pray that the cancellation of the concessions may be withdrawn.

IRRIGATION

This district is no doubt favoured with a heavy rain-fall; but it is not fully realised that this has disadvantages such as the gradual impoverishment of the soil. Besides, the concentration of the rain-fall during a part of the year stands in the way of large extents of waste land being utilised for cultivation purposes. We get no benefit from the irrigation funds on the apparent ground that these funds are only meant for repairs to bunds which are not required in this district. We trust deep well-pumps may be provided in the beds of rivers which grow dry during hot weather as at Gurpur and that a dredger may be provided for the Netravati river which is gradually growing shallower.

The Government of India allotted a certain sum of money in the last Budget for the encouragement of rural industry and generally to provide for more employment; but the decision of the Madras Government to spend the money on tank repairs and similar 'famine' schemes apparently means that no part of the money will be allotted to this district, although there are other directions besides repairs of tanks in which rural employment can be increased. We beg that your Excellency will be pleased to see that an equitable share of the funds allotted under this head is spent in this district.

EDUCATION

Time after time we have represented to Government how our community is handicapped in the matter of facilities for the opening and maintenance of Educational Institutions. So far back as in 1919 we represented to the then Governor during his visit to this town that while other communities might not be particular about imparting religious instruction in schools, the Catholic community was bound by the tenets of their religion to have their own schools, in which religious education is given side by side with secular education. We shall not weary Your Excellency with the arguments for our attitude which is not peculiar to us here, but is shared by Catholics all over the world. We are glad that the Hon'ble the Minister for Education and the Education Department have realised the genuineness of our opposition to the Government scheme for concentration and consolidation of schools. The Hon'ble the Minister for Education said during the Budget Session of the Council that the Catholics will not be compelled to come into the Government Scheme. We were much relieved by this pronouncement, but we regret that in the matter of recognition and grant to schools we are still at a great disadvantage. Seeing that the cost per pupil in a Mission School is only Rs. 6-8-0 per head as against Rs. 10-14-0 per head in a school maintained by local bodies and Rs. 13-2-0 in a school maintained by the Government, it would be economical to give more liberal support to Mission Schools.

It has been admitted on all sides that our schools are highly efficient. The Indian Statutory Commission said in their report (vol I, p. 31):—"*The Indian Christians from the point of view both of numerical and political importance call for special consideration. Their many admirably conducted schools and the hospitals founded and maintained by Christian missionaries of various nationalities and denominations, some of which we visited during our tours through India, compel a tribute to the splendid services they render. It was the missionaries who were among the pioneers of education for the illiterate; they maintain some of the best medical institutions of the country; and their work among women and children, and for the Depressed Classes, is of a special significance. Not the least admirable feature of their activities is that they have carried on their labours without offending the susceptibilities either of Moslem or of Hindu, and have lived at peace and amity with their neighbours. * * * * * In English education, the Indian Christians are second only to the Parsis, whose advantages are enormously superior. The achievement is a great one and shows what good work is done in Mission Schools.*" These are the remarks made in the Legislative Council by Sir A. P. Patro, an ex-Minister for Education:—"*I am sorry some remarks have been made which amount to ignoring the great and noble work done by Christian Missionaries in this country, particularly in South India. The Missions have done selfless work in the interests of the people. If today the Madras Presidency is educationally ahead of other Provinces, it is because of the foundations laid by the Missionary societies and the personal sacrifices of individual missionaries*

who had worked in every district and taluk." The present Education Minister said during last year's Budget Session in the Legislative Council that he was in entire agreement with the view that the public owed a deep debt of gratitude to the missionaries and Missionary institutions for the excellent educational work they had done in this country. Sir Philip Hartog, who presided over the Committee bearing his name said—*"Christian Missions have acted as pioneers in most branches of modern Indian Education and their work is valued by non-Christian Communities."* We have but to read the reports of the Education Department to see in what esteem the efforts of the Mission Agencies are held by the Education Department. Nearly every day we read in the Press, encomiums passed by the highest in the land, Hindus and Muslims included, such as the Diwan of Mysore about the high standard of education imparted in Christian schools and the discipline maintained in them. Our Collector, in the speech at the Durbar already mentioned, referred to our excellent Educational institutions. Your Excellency in a recent speech at the Madras Y. M. C. A. spoke of the need of voluntary organisations in this country to take over social service work. It will not be in accordance with the principles advocated by Your Excellency if any steps are taken to discourage aided agencies from discharging the duty of imparting elementary education!

In view of these facts, we urge that generous treatment may be afforded with regard to recognition and grant to Catholic Schools in this district.

In the District Educational Council of this district, which consists of 30 members, there are 5 ex-officio members. Of the remaining 25 members there is only one elected by the Roman Catholic Mission, whereas the Basel Mission which has much fewer schools has one member, the Depressed Classes and their Missions with a very few schools have 2 members, the Mahila Sabha with no school at all has one member. This is a plainly inequitable distribution of the seats. We submit that having regard to the number of schools maintained by us, the number of pupils in those schools and the amount of money invested in them, we are entitled to at least four members in the Council. There has been considerable lack of sympathy towards Catholic schools in the district. This can be only overcome and fairplay secured for Catholic schools by giving adequate representation to Catholic interests.

St. Agnes' College conducted by the Sisters of the Order of Apostolic Carmel is the only first-grade college for women in the West Coast of this Presidency. Owing to its high state of efficiency, it attracts pupils from even distant places outside this district. Its usefulness is however curtailed by the fact that there are no science courses in the college classes, for which there is a great demand in these days; and many applications for admission have had to be refused for want of these courses.

Application has been made to add Natural Science and Mathematics in 1936 in the college classes. But the Science course is incomplete without Chemistry and Physics, as these subjects are taken by students intending to join the Medical College. Courses in these subjects cannot be provided without heavy expenditure for equipment. We request that Your Excellency will be pleased to have the required permission accorded and liberal grants allowed for adding these subjects also.

COMMUNICATIONS

Our district has indeed been the Cinderella of this Province, receiving scant attention to its needs. We are not receiving due return for the contribution we make to revenue. The motor vehicle tax takes away from our district about 1¼ lakhs of rupees per annum and we receive in return only about a quarter of that amount as compensation from the Government. This is due apparently to a mistake, which, we pray, may be corrected without delay.

Our imperative need is the bridging of the numerous rivers by which this district is intersected, and a continuous road from Malabar to this district. We understand that a difficulty in the way of meeting the latter requirement is the fear entertained by the Railway company of competition from buses. We would suggest that if this fear is regarded as reasonable in view of the large outlay on Railways, the question may be considered of giving the Railway Company certain concessions in regard to running their own buses along routes which would compete with the Railways.

We understand that the Mangalore Municipal Council is applying to the Government for a loan to meet the cost of tarring the roads of the town. The dust nuisance is daily increasing and is a menace to the health of the town. We beg that Your Excellency will be pleased to see that the loan is sanctioned.

INDUSTRIES

Our Community has depended to a great extent on the coffee, tile and textile industries, which are all languishing. We are grateful to the Government for the subsidy to the Textile Industry, and trust that our district will receive a due share of the subsidy. We beg that the Government will be pleased to extend their support to new industries for which this district is eminently suited, abandoning the *laissez-faire* policy hitherto followed. Two such industries are sugar and porcelain factories. We have referred earlier to the sugar factory. The ceramic survey which was completed about 3 years ago disclosed the existence in this district of an abundant supply of kaolin and felspar, the two ingredients necessary for the manufacture of ceramic ware. It is understood that the Government Advisory Committee for Industries recommended the establishment of a demonstration ceramic factory at Mangalore, and we trust that provision will be made in the next budget for its establishment. We would point out that the Mysore Government have undertaken several industries in Mysore State from which considerable income is derived by them. Even if the Madras Government are not prepared to adopt this policy, but are only prepared to give a start to new industries and carry them on up to the stage when they can be taken over by private enterprise, we beg that the initial steps for the establishment of new industries suitable for this district might be taken, so as to help the people of this district out of their present state of economic depression. We would also urge that the distillery for the manufacture of cashew arrack may be shifted from Chowghat to Mangalore, especially as cashew liquor is to be consumed only in this district. But as cashew fruit is available only for some months in the year, we beg that steps may be taken to treat cocoanut toddy arrack as country liquor so as to avoid the heavy duty now imposed on it, and to permit its manufacture also in Mangalore.

MALPE HARBOUR

As a result apparently of representations made to Lord Pentland, a committee of experts was appointed to report on the feasibility of improving this harbour; and this Committee recommended that a more extensive survey as well as borings and probings might be made. This recommendation has not been carried out. At that time there was the counter proposal of the Mysore Government, of a harbour at Bhatkal, which has been abandoned. The recent improvement of the Cochin harbour will not stand in the way of the development of the Malpe harbour, as the latter harbour will serve better the requirements of this district as well as of Mysore which is in great need of a harbour within easy reach. The improvement of Malpe harbour will greatly help in the development of this district as Your Excellency will be able to see during your visit. We beg that Your Excellency will be pleased to have the matter pursued.

In conclusion, we beg to thank Your Excellency for patiently listening to the long tale of our grievances and respectfully hope that the requests made by us may, after such examination as Your Excellency may consider necessary, be favourably and sympathetically considered in the light of what Your Excellency will personally see and learn during your stay in this district.

We beg to remain,

Your Excellency's Most Obedient and Humble

Servants,

For the Members of the South Kanara Catholic Association

MANGALORE
15th October, 1935

Collector's 10/

Notes on the Catholic Deputation.

(1) Agriculture:- The idea of a sugarcane factory is only just in its infancy and no one has yet made any sufficient enquiries about the area of sugarcane under cultivation within 15 miles Mangalore.

Cashew nut cultivation:- People are quite well aware of th profits to be got from cultivating cashew nuts and know much better than the Revenue Department or Agricultural Department to grow the trees.

(2) Darkhasts:- I do not think that any case has been made out for preferential treatment to be given to Catholic Institutions. Th own a large area of land in the district scattered among many villages.

(3) Forests:- The Forest Member Sir Venkata Reddi proposes to come down to South Kanara in November in order to consider the representations which have been made by the South Kanara Land-holders' Association about the Forest concessions. I think tha the Catholic Members of the Deputation have no first hand knowledge of the forest grievances at all.

(4) Irrigation:- Sir Venkata Reddi will also consider the appli cation of the Port Conservancy Board for the improvement of the Dredger. I have not heard that any money isto be spent in Sout Kanara for wells in the beds of rivers.

(5) Education:- I have no remarks to make. The Catholic school do not appear to be neglected by the Educational Department as the Deputation maintains.

(6) Communications:- There is no doubt that the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act works very hard on South Kanara. Whereas in other districts the proceeds of the Taxation only amount to a fractio of its former toll revenue, in South Kanara the Motor Vehicles Taxation Revenue is more than double the old tolls revenue largely because ferries have not been included in the Taxation Act and all vehicles still have to pay ferry charges at numerous places in the district. But every district receives from the pool the same proportion of tax, relative to tolls

income. I am not sure about the present state of the proposal to make a through road to Malabar. Several bridges are essential on the road north of Cannanore. The question of bridging the two rivers between Tellicherry and Calicut (Elatur or Koranuzha and Koorat) also affects this road question and the newspapers state that the Railway Board has objected to these bridges on the ground that they will increase road and railway competition.

My own idea is that the Malabar District Board has 'double crossed' the South Kanara District Board, by putting the Elatur and Koorat bridges in the forefront of the Malabar-South Kanara trunk road, although the road between Cannanore and Kasaragod is the part which needs tackling first. The Government of Madras accepted the Elatur and Koorat bridges but the Railway Board opposed them. It is feared that this early setback may cause the Malabar District Board to drop the scheme at their end, where the road-making is more difficult than in South Kanara.

(7) Industries:- When the Commissioner of Excise was touring in South Kanara in August I understand that he discussed the question of a distillery in Mangalore with the local Catholics. I am not aware what was the result of the discussions.

(8) Malpe Harbour:- This harbour was reported on by a firm of Harbour Engineers (Wolffe, Lysters & Partners) from England about 1911. The idea of making a proper harbour at Malpe is quite impracticable in view of the cost involved. The idea is wrapped up with a railway to Mysore and concessions at Malpe to the Mysore Government.

E.H.GAMBLE,
Collector.

Revenue Department.

To U.S. (thro' D.S).

Please see the D.O. from the P.S.G. at p.1 ante. The points which relate to this department are noted on in the sectional notes infra. The file may be sent to P.S.G. thro' H.M.C-3., thro' M2 & M3.

As regards the portion relating to Rangaraju, a note has been prepared by Pvt. Secy. as seems called for in this behalf.

4.10.35 4.10.35

D.S./S

5.10.35

I have noted in the sectional notes so far as the Rev. Dept. is concerned. 10.10.35

M2 (contd)

M3 (contd)

P.S.G.

Circ 5.X.35
Box C.14.

Cashew-nut cultivation.

Extract from memorandum.

)f recent years the demand for cashewnuts has been steadily increasing, owing to foreign demand. The manufacture of oil from the shell of the cashewnut is being tried in the school of Technology at Madras and in the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore. If the experiments are successful, an additional use will be found for the cashewnut. * * * We would urge that to meet the growing demand for the products of cashew fruit and nuts, the cultivation of cashew trees may be encouraged. The total extent of Government waste land in this district in fasli 1338 was 1,248,252 acres which included areas wholly unsuited for cultivation, such as laterite hill-tops and jungle land situated in malarial and unpopulated tracts and kumaki lands, and in reply to recent interpellations, the Hon'ble the Revenue Member of Government said that if any applications are received for the assignment of waste lands for cashew cultivation, they will be favourably considered. We would suggest that the Revenue and Agricultural Department may be instructed to render assistance in ascertaining what lands will be suitable for cashew cultivation, and to offer facilities for their cultivation. While increasing the land revenue this would give a welcome addition to the income of agriculturists.

Collector's notes.

People are quite well aware of the profits to be got from cultivating cashew nuts and know much better than the Revenue Department or Agricultural Department how to grow the trees.

Secretariat notes.

In April 1934, one Mr. Kent suggested to the Government the feasibility of systamatically growing cashew-nut trees on the waste lands in the South Kanara district. Mr. Gawne then reported that the people in South Kanara generally were fully alive to the possibilities of cashew growing. The suggestion was dropped. In reply to an interpellation in the Legislative Council asking how much waste land in the South Kanara District was suitable for cashew cultivation, the Government stated that it would be impossible to ascertain this without an elaborate enquiry.

dw
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3099

Th. Secy may agree
w. the Collectors views
overleaf please

5.10.35

Cashew nut grows almost
wild over a large part of S. Kanara.
The Co. view is correct for the people
are fully alive to the ways of
cultivating it. I stated in
the Leg. Council that Govt would
consider favourably any
applications for assignment of
land for the purpose. This still
stands

Govt
Cirl

Darkhasts and assignments.

Extract from memorandum

Having regard to the humanitarian services carried out by our Institutions, which relieve Government and local bodies of a large portion of the burden which would otherwise fall on them, we trust that Government would deal with special liberality, applications for darkhasts which have to be made to carry on the work of the institutions.

Collector's notes.

I do not think that any case has been made out for preferential treatment to be given to Catholic Institutions. They own a large area of land in the district scattered among many villages.

Secretariat notes.

Till the beginning of 1935, Roman Catholic Institutions were treated as alien bodies and the previous sanction of the Government was insisted upon for assignment and alienation of State land to these Institutions. In G.O. 112 Rev., dated 15-1-35, the Government were pleased to remove these restrictions. These Institutions are therefore at perfect liberty to acquire land just like any other British subject.

2. It is open to any one to apply for the assignment of waste land on darkhast. If there should be more than one applicant for the same land, preference is, broadly speaking, given in the following order in the S. Kanara D.:—

(1) The registered holder or mulgeni tenant who is entitled to kumaki privileges over any portion of the land applied for.

(2) A resident in the village .

(3) Ex-military men who served in war the time of last war

3. Applications for alienation of land for public purposes such as schools, churches etc. have to be submitted for the orders of the Government. Such applications are always dealt with sympethetically - whether they are from Catholic Institutions or other bodies.

309
309

There is no reason to show any preferential consideration in respect of application for land from a Roman Catholic institution

fear
5.10.35

I quite agree. The R. Cs are among the richest inhabitants of S. Kanara & apart from the undesirability of unduly favouring members of a particular religion, there is no reason whatever to give them any preference.

C.M.S.
6/10

Sl. No. Cashew arrack - Shifting the distillery from Chowghat in Malabar district to South Kanara district - Cocoanut toddy arrack to be treated as country liquor and its manufacture permitted in Mangalore.

Extract from the Memorandum.

Cashew fruits now being wasted will find a use, if the distillery from the manufacture of cashew arrack is shifted from Chowghat to this district.

We would also urge that the distillery for the manufacture of cashew arrack may be shifted from Chowghat to Mangalore, especially as cashew liquor is to be consumed only in this district. But as cashew fruit is available only for some months in the year, we beg that steps may be taken to treat cocoanut toddy arrack as country liquor so as to avoid the heavy duty now imposed on it, and to permit its manufacture also in Mangalore

Collector's notes.

Industries:- When the Commissioner of Excise was touring in South Kanara in August I understand that he discussed the question of a distillery in Mangalore with the local Catholics. I am not aware what was the result of the discussions.

Secretariat notes.

Establishment of a distillery in Kanara district for the manufacture of cashew arrack.

The question of the establishment of a distillery in the South Kanara district for the manufacture of liquor and power alcohol from cashew fruits was examined by the Government in 1927 in connection with a Legislative Council question asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha. The Commissioner of Excise was against the starting of any such local industry for the

He states that if arrack is permitted to be manufactured from cashew there would be a considerable fall in revenue and an increase in illicit distillation as it would be extremely difficult to differentiate between licit and illicit liquor.

manufacture of liquor. The Government accepted the Commissioner's view.

In January 1932 Mr. J. A. Saldanha sent in a memorandum to the Government. One of the suggestions made therein was the establishment of distilleries in the South Kanara district for the manufacture of power alcohol, liquor etc., from cashew fruits. Mr. Saldanha was informed that the establishment of a distillery in the South Kanara district for the production of power alcohol etc., from cashew fruits formed the subject of correspondence between the Government and the Secretary, District Advancement Association, South Kanara, in 1930, that the difficulties in the way of making power spirit from cashew fruit were pointed out to him and was asked what the Secy whether the Association had any statistics as to the cost of producing power alcohol from cashew fruits, that he replied that he was not in possession of any such statistics but that as desired by the Director of Industries, Madras, he would send some cashew fruits to the Director of Tata's Research Institute, Bangalore, for conducting certain experiments and that nothing further had been heard from him on the subject.

Mr. Sreshta gave notice of a reduction motion during the budget session of 1933 urging the desirabilit of establishing or assisting the establishment of distilleries for the manufacture of liquor from cashew fruit. Mr. Thorne noted as follows:--

"I have seen the Commissioner and discussed this with him. He says there is nothing in the idea as regards industrial spirit. But the distillation of potable spirit from cashews is another matter. He agrees with me that there is nothing in the argument that the establishment of a cashew distillery would encourage illicit distillation. Illicit distillation from cash is rampant now in South Kanara and the effect of

providing licit liquor would be rather to discourage than to encourage it. He is enquiring into the matte further, and thinks it may be quite possible to frame a scheme.

On 12-5-1933 Mr. A. L. Pinto forwarded copy o a resolution passed by the General Council of the Catholic Association which urged for the establishmen of a distillery in the South Kanara district for manufacturing arrack from cashew fruits and toddy and which stated that the establishment of a distillery outside the South Kanara district, which was the main cashew producing area, would defeat the object of the scheme. This was forwarded to the Commissioner for information in continuation of Government Memo.No.1453 33-2, dated 22-5-33 wherein he was asked to investigat the question of the manufacture of arrack from cashew fruit and submit detailed proposals for the considera- tion of Government. In his proposals for the manufact of arrack from cashew fruits the Commissioner stated a follows:-

"Assuming that the experiment is undertaken and proves successful, what will be the next step? Tw possibilities suggest themselves, one that the Chowgha distillery should be enlarged with a view to a larger output, the other, that a distillery for the manufactur of cashew arrack should be located in the district where it is sold. With the present small demand for cocoanut toddy arrack it is possible to switch over th Chowghat distillery to cashew during the short cashew fruit season and change back to cocoanut toddy arrack afterwards: it should still be possible to economise excise staff and distillers' overheads with an enlarged distillery sufficient to cope with the quantity of frui locally available. If it turns out that the demand in South Kanara cannot be met from Chowghat, it may be

necessary hereafter to put up a distillery at Mangalore or near it with sufficient capacity to produce enough arrack in the short cashew season (three months) to manufacture and store a year's requirements. This wil involve a considerable lock up in plant and in storage vats and will undoubtedly add greatly to the cost of the liquor, and, though it does not at present seem necessary to look so far ahead, it seems unlikely that any private enterprise will find the capital involved except in a guarantee of a contract for distillation of cashew for a long term of years and for liberty to distil arrack, potable or industrial, from other bases, e.g., jaggery, molasses or toddy, out of the cashew season. There is, in the Commr's opinion, good reason to defer to the admitted taste for cashew ~~in~~ arrack consumers of South Kanara; no good reason exists for departing from the policy of Government for a long series of years which has been to treat cocoanut toddy arrack as a foreign liquor and to restrict the production of country spirit to contract distilleries for which the base of distillation is fixed, having regard to the raw material available in each". Mr. Thorne noted that what the South Kanara folk wanted was a cashew distillery in the district, that the existing distillery at Chowghat in Malabar was the right place for the experiment, that it was within his own knowledge that cashew grew profusely in the neighbourhood and that the Chowghat distillery could be used for the purpose at a trifling cost. The proposals of the Commr. of Excise to adopt the Chowghat distillery for the purpose was sanctioned by the Govt in G.O.673 Rev., dated 4-4-1934. The Commr. ~~has been~~ asked to take the necessary steps to ensure that the distillation of cashew arrack ~~is~~ was started in the ~~next~~ season i.e., March, April and May 1935 and that the experiment ~~is~~ was given a trial. The Commissioner recently stated that there ~~has been~~ is a large stock of cashew arrac

unsold and requested the reduction of its strength from 30° U.P. to 35° U.P. and also a reduction in duty so as to make the price of it conform to the price of molasses arrack . The matter is separately under consideration. The Catholic Association now request that a distillery for the manufacture of cashew arrack might be established in the South Kanara district.

Under rule 4 of the Distillery and Warehouse Rules the Commissioner of Excise can issue licences fo the establishment of a distillery. There are at present 11 distilleries in the Presidency and all exce the one at Chowghat in Malabar district are private distilleries. The Government distillery at Chowghat ha been leased to Messrs. Parry & Co. who are also the contract suppliers of molasses arrack for South Kanara. In view of what the Commissioner has said and in view of the fact that a large stock of cashew arrack is kept unsold, it does not appear that the question of opening a distillery at Mangalore or near it can be taken up.

The result of the cashew arrack experiment in Chowghat (which is on trial) is not encouraging the demand for this arrack has not been up to expectations.
5.10

Cocoanut toddy arrack to be treated as count liquor and its manufacture permitted in Mangalore.

The policy followed at present in respect of cocoanut toddy arrack is that it is taxed at a rate higher than ordinary country spirits and allowed to be sold in foreign liquor shops but not in country liquor shops. This policy has dated from 1906, vide G.O.No.559 Rev., dated 18-6-1906, and is in accordance with the recommendations of the Excise Committee of 1905-06 with reference to the differentiation between "country" and "foreign" spirits viz. that eventually only plain spirit made from materials recognised as legitimate bases for the manufacture of country spirit should be treated as "country spirit" proper and n

subjected to local rates of duty, and that all imported spirits (sophisticated and flavoured spirits, and spirits made from special bases, such as malt and toddy, should be treated as "foreign liquor", subjected to tariff rates of duty and sold at foreign liquor shops.

2. The only kind of toddy arrack manufactured in this Presidency is cocoanut toddy arrack and the Chowghat distillery in Malabar is the only distillery at which it is manufactured.

3. The arguments in favour of the present position are as follow:--

(1) The existence of cocoanut toddy arrack as country liquor side by side with arrack made from sugar resulted in a great deal of illicit manufacture of toddy arrack and its sale in shops. Toddy spirit is very easily distilled by primitive methods from fermented toddy and if it should be accepted as country liquor in any area, licensed vendors would be tempted to enhance their stocks by illicit manufacture. The result would be loss of revenue and [illegible] increased and cheaper drinking.

(2) At one time the country spirit consumed in this Presidency was mainly made from toddy, but with the adoption of scientific excise methods toddy spirit was replaced by jaggery or molasses arrack. The new spirit soon took the place of the old, and in 1906 it was found that even in South Kanara and Malabar where arrack was still permitted to be distilled from toddy, molasses arrack was already preferred by the large majority of consumers. Statistics for the years 1903 to 1906 showed that in these districts, outside the towns, the consumption of cocoanut toddy arrack was insignificant and that town consumers who preferred this liquor and could afford to pay for it would still be able to obtain what they wanted at taverns and at foreign liquor shops.

(3) Results of analysis made have indicated that toddy spirit is less pure and wholesome than molasses arrack and also possesses a higher percentage of acidity.

(4) It was expected that the sale of cocoanut toddy arrack as foreign liquor would tend to reduce th consumption of cheap imported foreign liquor especiall Colombo arrack. The figures supplied by the Commissioner of Excise ~~[illegible]~~ show that the consumption of cheap foreign liquor has been reduced especially after 1923-24.

4. The only argument against the taxation of toddy arrack at a rate above the rates levied on country spirits proper, which appears to have been advanced, is that it is a real hardship to make people pay the exceptionally high tariff rate which is impose upon the Europeans liquor on what is a country product This is, however, met by the argument (2) in paragraph above.

5. The tariff rate of duty was in 1923 Rs.21-14- per proof gallon, and in view of the argument mantione in paragraph 4 above the duty on toddy spirit was reduced to Rs.17-8-0 per proof gallon. This resulted in this liquor being no longer a foreign liquor. It became a country liquor by the definition of country liquor in the Abkari Act, but it was ordered that it should continue to be sold in foreign liquor shops.

6. In paragraph 3 at page 15 of ~~[illegible]~~ the Commission has stated that on grounds of public health as well as departmental advantage the present policy with regard to the sale of cocoanut toddy arrack ought to be maintained. As the balance of the arguments as noted above is decidedly in favour of the present system, the request to treat the cocoanut toddy arrack as a country liquor cannot it appears be accepted.

4-10-35 5.10.35 4.10.35

Agriculture.

Mainly agriculturists, we have suffered heavily by the fall in the price of rice and other agricultural produce. Our Community which has large interests in coffee, has been specially hit by the fall in the price of this commodity and diminution of demand for it from foreign countries. In these circumstances we pray for measures tending to reduce assessment of land and increase of consumption of coffee in this country, and export to foreign countries.

Collector's notes.

Nil.

Secretariat notes.

The reference to coffee in connection with their request for the reduction of the assessment on land is not clear. At the resettlement there has been no separate classification of coffee lands. The request of the Association apparently is that, as the profits from coffee trade have decreased, the assessment on the agricultural lands should be reduced. The enhancement of the rates ordered at the resettlement (which has been introduced from the current fasli) is as follows:-

-lands	12½%
Garden "	12½%
Dry	No enhancement.

The South Kanara Landholders' Association, which waited on H.E. the Governor on 12th December 1934, presented among other things that the above rates of assessment were high. The Government examined this contention and found that there has been a definite advance in the economic condition of the area since the last resettlement. It was in fact admitted in the Memorandum of the South Kanara District Landholders' Association that the standard of living had risen very considerably since the last settlement and had reached

a distinctly high level. The Government considered that the above rates were moderate and that on the facts reported by the S.S.O., the maximum increase of 18⅝ would have been justified.

In view of the present level of prices the Government have granted special increment remission by which the 12½% enhancement of the wet and garden rates will be introduced in stages. In the current year 1½ annas in the rupee of the 2 annas increase has been remitted. The Government have also sanctioned for the ~~current~~ last fasli (1344) a general suspension of 11% of the resettlement assessment on wet lands and 12½% of the assessment on garden lands. The statement below shows the actual percentage enhancement which has been collected during ~~this~~ the past fasli after taking into account the increment remission and the orders regarding the general suspension of land revenue.

	Resettlement enhancement.	General concessions.	Increment remission.	Net enhancement.
Wet lands	12½	11	9 3/8	+0 1/8
Garden lands	12½	12½	9 3/8	-

(The Association's request regarding increase of the consumption of coffee and export to foreign countries have been noted on separately by the Development Department.)

4.10.35

I have only to remark that there is no coffee in S. Kanara. But R.C's of that & our extensive coffee estates in Mysore. I cannot see the connection between profits from coffee in Mysore & our current assessment

5.10.35

Secd Indians para 12 ... (U)

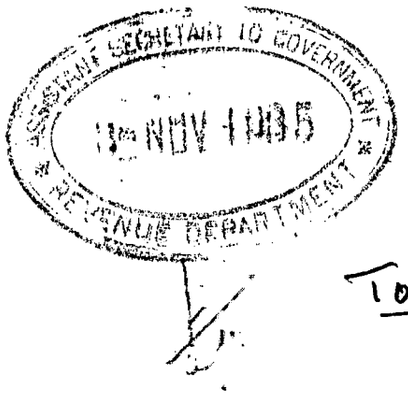
paras 25-32 MR 10-11 (U)

MR see para 5 ... (IV) (K2)

Returned with thanks, with an extract from the
proceedings of the deputation.

p 24 infra

P.S.G.
30/10/35.



Rev. Deptt

Tow.S

Please see the extract at p 24 infra. With refce. to A at p 24 infra, no further action appears called for so far as this deptt is concerned. Vide the Secretarial notes at pp 9-12 ante. and H.M's remarks thereon for orders therefore whether the papers may be G.O.Ms. 2098 dy 9.11.35

Recorded

29/9/11

Thro' B. D Dte

Dte 5/11

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5/11/35

8/11/35

Land for ... and cultivation of the persons interested in which the land they own and apply for it.

8.11.35

9/11

8.11.35

2